## CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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USSR (Estonian SSR)	REPORT	25
SUBJECT Sea Communications With Saaremaa and Hiiumaa Islands	DATE DISTR. 18 July 1955	
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-	USSR (Estonian SSR) Sea Communications With Saaremaa and Hiiumaa Islands	Sea Communications With Saaremaa DATE DISTR. 18 July 1955 and Hiiumaa Islands  NO. OF PAGES  REQUIREMENT NO. RD  REFERENCES  This is UNEVALUATED Information

- 1. Ferry communications between the Estenian mainland and Saareman Island (N 58-20, E 23-00) operate from Virtsu (N 58-30, E 23-50) on the mainland to Kuivastu (N 58-30, E 23-30) on the east coast of Muhn Island, which is connected to Saareman by means of a causeway. This service is maintained by a small vessel named MERKURUS and by an automobile ferry, powered by two diesel motors, capable of carrying about 15 three-ton trucks. These two vessels transport all passenger and freight surface traffic. The crossing takes about one hour, and there is a ferry every second hour after 0730. From January until April ice prevents passage by water but, for a good part of this time, trucks can be driven across the ice.
- 2. There is a similar ferry service from Haapsalu (N 58-55, E 23-40) on the mainland to Heltermaa (N 59-00, E 22-55) on the east coast of Hillman Island.
- There is also believed to be an occasional connecting ferry from Virtsu or Kuivastu to Heltermaa.
- 4. The only other communication between these islands and the mainland is the twice daily airline connection.

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